Approval of the Central Road Fund Proposal

5809. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to evaluate the proposal to augment to the Central Road Fund further and study its implications before approving it;

(b) whether a group of Ministers was asked to go into the details of the Road Fund proposals.

(c) if so, whether they have submitted their recommendations .

(d) if so, what are the details of the recommendations made by them; and

(e) by when the road fund proposal is likely to be finally decided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) The Cabinet decided that the matter of Central Road Fund augmentation be considered in the first instance by the Group of Ministers. The Group of Ministers considered the note of the Ministry of Surface Transport in March 1994 and directed that the Ministry may prepare a paper indicating the flow of funds in the road sector and then the group would meet again.

(e) It is to early to indicate by when the Central road fund proposal would be finally decided.

Investment by United Kingdom in Construction of Roads and Ports

5810. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether United Kingdom has evinced keen desire to invest in the construction of roads and ports in India;

(b) if so, whether a 14-Member British delegation visited India in April, 1994 and had discussion with Union Surface Transport Minister;

(c) if so, whether any concrete agreements in this regard have been reached;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there are 27 projects on highways where Britisher's participation has been sought; and

(f) if so, what are the States where the construction of roads will be undertaken with the help of U.K.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The British delegation visited India during the months of February, and April, 1994

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) It is too early to specify the position as the discussions were mainly of exploratory nature.

Increase in DTC Passenger Fares

5811. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided or are likely to decide to increase the DTC passenger fares; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor stating its impact on the lower and